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Application No.: 10/643395
Docket No.: FA1059USNA

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) Waterborne cathodic electrodeposition (CED) coating agents comprising resin solids and optionally pigments, fillers, organic solvents and conventional coating additives, wherein said CED coating agents comprise at least one bismuth salt selected from the group consisting of bismuth hydroxycarboxylic acid salts and bismuth sulfonic acid salts in a quantity of 0.1 to 2.5 wt-%, calculated as bismuth and relative to resin solids content, together with at least one compound selected from the group consisting of yttrium and neodymium compounds in a quantity of 0.1 to 1 wt-%, calculated as metal and based on resin solids content.
2. (Original) The CED coating agents of claim 1, wherein the bismuth hydroxycarboxylic acid salts are selected from the group consisting of bismuth lactate and bismuth dimethylolpropionate and the bismuth sulfonic acid salts are selected from the group consisting of bismuth amidosulfonate and bismuth hydrocarbylsulfonates.
3. (Original) The CED coating agents of claim 1, wherein the proportion of the at least one bismuth salt is 0.5 to 2 wt-%, calculated as bismuth and relative to resin solids content.
4. (Original) The CED coating agents of claim 1, wherein the yttrium and neodymium compounds comprise salts selected from the group consisting of yttrium sulfate, yttrium nitrate, carboxylic acid salts of yttrium, hydrocarbylsulfonates of yttrium, neodymium sulfate, neodymium nitrate, carboxylic acid salts of neodymium and hydrocarbylsulfonates of neodymium.
5. (Original) The CED coating agents of claim 1, wherein the proportion of the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of yttrium and neodymium compounds is 0.15 to 0.5 wt-%, calculated as metal and relative to resin solids content.
6. (Currently amended) A process for cathodic electrodeposition coating of an electrically conductive substrates ~~using a CED coating agent of claim 1~~ said process

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comprising electrodepositing a CED coating layer on an electrically conductive substrate connected up as the cathode from the CED coating agent of claim 1.

7. (Original) A process according to claim 6, wherein the substrates comprise substrates selected from the group consisting of automotive bodies and body parts.

8. (Withdrawn) Substrates cathodically electrodeposition coated using a process of claim 6.

9. (Original) A process for forming the CED coating agents according to claim 1 which comprises adding at least one bismuth salt selected from the group consisting of bismuth hydroxycarboxylic acid salts and bismuth sulfonic acid salts and at least one compound selected from the group of yttrium and neodymium compounds to (CED) coating agents comprising resin solids, and optionally, pigments, fillers, organic solvents and conventional coating additives.